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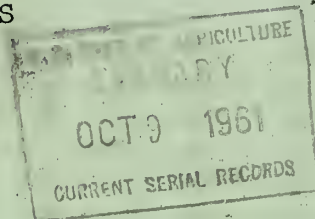
Reserve UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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NEWSLETTER - - - March 16, 1960

MARCH

PRICE SUPPORTS FOR 1960 CROPS

With planting time for 1960  
crops drawing near over much of

the country, the U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced the rates at  
which prices of several of the leading crops will be supported.

For corn, the formula contained in the law indicates a national average  
support rate of \$1.06 per bushel - 6 cents below the rate for the past  
season's crop. The \$1.06 rate is a minimum announced in advance of planting.  
The actual rate on corn harvested next fall may not be lower than that, but  
may be higher if the figures at the beginning of the next corn marketing year  
require it.

As in 1959, there will be no acreage allotments nor commercial corn-producing  
area, and all corn that meets quality and storage requirements will be eligi-  
ble for support.

For several other crops, included in recent announcements, the 1960 national  
price support will be the same as in 1959. This is true of barley, oats, rye,  
and soybeans.

The following national average price-support rates have been announced for  
the 1960 crops. The chart below gives the comparison of 1959 and 1960  
support rates per bushel.

<u>Grain</u>	<u>1960 National Average</u>	<u>1959 National Average</u>	<u>1959 Delaware Farm</u>
Wheat	\$1.77	\$1.81	\$2.05
Corn	1.06	1.12	1.23
Barley	.77	.77	.88
Oats	.50	.50	.59
Rye	.90	.90	1.03
Soybeans	1.85	1.85	1.80

#### WOOL PROGRAM

Crop year on wool ends March 31, 1960. Sheep farmers should contact their local ASC office if they have sold any unshorn lambs or wool since April 1959. They may be eligible for the wool incentive payment. Farmers may bring their sales slips to the county office and fill out their applications for payment before April 30, 1960 in order to qualify.

#### ACP FUNDS STILL AVAILABLE

The Agricultural Conservation Program is provided to share the cost of performance of soil and water conservation practices on the farm. The government pays approximately 50% of the performance cost of the practice when it is properly installed in accordance with the specifications. The farmer must request assistance in writing prior to beginning performance of the conservation measures. The practices available include establishing and improving permanent grass covers such as alfalfa and permanent pasture, open and underground ditching, tree planting, ponds and cover crops for erosion control.

#### WHEAT GROWER WITHOUT ALLOTMENT SHOULD NOTIFY ASC

Any farmer who has seeded wheat for harvest as grain next summer but who does not have a wheat allotment or a feed wheat exemption should notify the county ASC Office of his estimated acreage. In this way, county records can be established and steps can be taken to make such a farmer eligible for a wheat marketing card if he decides to sell any of his grain.

Under the wheat marketing quota program, any grower who produces more than 15 acres of wheat is subject to a penalty on any "excess" wheat harvested. The penalty must be paid before the wheat is eligible for marketing.

#### CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

The Conservation Reserve of the Soil Bank is a program in which farmers voluntarily sign contracts with the U. S. Department of Agriculture to retire general cropland from production and devote it to conservation uses. The contracts provide that the U.S.D.A. will make an annual payment to the contract signer and will assist in establishing the conservation uses on the land.

Fifty-one Delaware farmers signed 1960 Conservation Reserve Contracts. These contracts were for 43 whole farms comprising 2,711 acres, and 8 part farms comprising 351.6 acres, a total of 3,062 acres. Previous to this year, 15,447 acres under 235 contracts were in effect. This will make a total of 286 contracts with 18,509 acres in the Conservation Reserve in 1960. This represents about 3.6 per cent of Delaware's cropland.

FOR THE DELAWARE ASC STATE COMMITTEE

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